

# CSP Collaboration

An Advisory Workgroup has been formed to help develop restoration plans for eight publicly owned properties along the Sacramento River between Princeton and Colusa. The SRCAF and The Nature Conservancy are coordinating the planning process that will focus on identifying the concerns of area landowners and addressing those concerns through research projects. The Planning study will occur over a three-year period and is funded by the California Bay-Delta Program, commonly known as CALFED.

The Colusa Subreach Planning (CSP) Advisory Workgroup, formed in November, meets on a monthly basis. The 21 member Workgroup is made up of local landowners, representatives of city and county governments and key staff from state, federal and private agencies. The AW will help direct the public engagement process, identify issues and concerns that need research and develop plans for those properties and a strategy for the Subreach.

As one of their first efforts, a public meeting was

held at the Colusa Indian Community Complex to listen to the concerns of local stakeholders. Possible impacts to flood control, adjoining landowners, and to the agricultural economy were voiced as the most serious, while public access and recreation, trespass, and wildlife conflicts were also named. The Advisory Workgroup will help gather additional information about these issues and recommend planning strategies that reduce or eliminate those impacts from the restoration of the publicly owned land.

The overall intent of the CSP is to plan for identified habitat restoration activities and related uses that will be compatible with agriculture and ensure the continuing integrity of the flood control system. The information gained from this study will also be available to help guide future projects such as: improved recreation access, long-term flood control facility maintenance, and public works projects.

Additional information can be obtained by viewing our website at: [www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov](http://www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov) or calling our office at: 530 528-7411.



Burt Bundy, SRCAF Manager, took this photo of his staff: Ellen Gentry, Assistant, and Beverley Anderson-Abbs, Resource Conservationist.

## Public Use Committee

The Public Use Committee held their first meeting February 1, at the Glenn County Courthouse in Willows. Denny Bungarz chaired the meeting. The question was raised; what can we do to streamline boat ramp maintenance permitting? The goal for the Committee could be an area-wide permit system.

Jackie Billings, Glenn County Planning and Public Works Agency, is working on a boat ramp cleaning permit for Glenn County. The project started last April, and each agency has separate windows of opportunity and issues on endangered aquatic and terrestrial species.

Establishing protocols will save time. Initially an environmental contract is done, then permitting for the whole area. If it does require special technical information, it should be arranged to be used multi-county. Cleaning and dredging was also discussed, as was what is done with the spoils.

Burt Bundy, SRCAF Manager, added that during construction of a boat ramp, maintenance is usually included because environmental documentation has been done; and after having initially talked to agencies, there is no reason not to have a general permit.

Denny recommended getting Sutter County involved as well as Colusa, Glenn, Tehama and Shasta to develop standard protocols and a maintenance process. Meanwhile, Jackie will continue her pursuit of a reasonable approach to get the work done.

# Hamilton City Project

The Hamilton City Project has 2005 Corps of Engineers funding to start Preliminary Engineering and Design, but is waiting for state agreements for design and non-federal cost-share. The Reclamation Board should have the Design Agreement available to sign at their April 15 meeting. The CA Bay-Delta Authority will consider a Project Management Plan to authorize CALFED funding for the State share at that time. State legislation and Federal authorization will be needed by 2006 to move forward with construction. A local levee district is in the process of being formed to assure funding for levee maintenance through a Local Cooperation Agreement.

## M&T/Llano Seco Fish Screen Facility

Les Heringer, M&T Ranch Manager, summarized the three day Project Alternatives and Feasibility Workshop that was held Feb. 16-18 at Llano Seco. The steering committee has been looking at two options for their pumping plant: Ranney collectors and spur dikes. An additional alternative was introduced by Paul Ward, California Department of Fish & Game, for dredging a channel to

keep water flowing past the pumping station. Studies will continue to provide information to select a final solution.

Ducks Unlimited is leading the study, and an amendment to the current application is being written for CALFED. Meanwhile they are assessing the amount of gravel that is planned for removal, and determining the potential of using windrow rock to hold the bank, until a final decision is made.



(l-r) Armand Gonsalvez, Gregg Werner, Burt Bundy, Greg Golet, Ryan Luster, Ben Carter, and Ray Krause prepare during a CSP Advisory Workgroup meeting.

# Technical Advisory Committee Update

• At the **Jan. TAC**, Bruce Ross, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the replacement of the Colusa Park boat ramp and the river's migration. The water source for Robert's Ditch also comes from the existing ramp area with a portable fish screen further up the channel. In looking at river geomorphology, including river meander, public land ownership, levee location, and existing riprap, it was determined that the best location was near the mouth of the current boat ramp access.

Mark Buckley, UCSC, gave a PowerPoint presentation on "Socially Strategic Restoration – Survey Data and Decision Models for the Sacramento River Conservation Area." Contact Mark at [mbuckley@ucsc.edu](mailto:mbuckley@ucsc.edu) for more information, or Stacy Cepello, DWR, for a copy of the PowerPoint.

Mary Keller, Sutter County Public Works, reported the parking pad and ramp at Tisdale Weir are being considered for replacement. The study is currently 60% complete. A new, wider bridge over the weir is being planned as a two-year project by DWR and should also be reviewed by the TAC.

• At the **Feb. TAC**, eight CALFED ERP proposals were presented to the TAC this month. These projects ranged from determining Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB) colonization to salmon escapement. A special thanks was given to Rebecca Fris for her ERP website assistance.

Dan Efseaff, River Partners, presented a PowerPoint summary of the Draft PCGID Pumping Plant Protection Feasibility Study, which is available online. River Partners is collaborating with stakeholders on 950 acres of riparian sanctuary on Llano Seco to identify solutions to meet habitat restoration, flood control and facility protection objectives, and integrating monitoring questions into the project.

An April 7 public meeting, 2:30-4:00, at Glenn County Pheasant Hall, is planned regarding the Pumping Plant Protection study. Documents and deliverables are available at: <http://www.riverpartners.org>.

• At the **March TAC**, five more CALFED monitoring projects were presented. These projects ranged from avian monitoring to the effectiveness of watershed improvement measures. With the addition of February's projects, 13 were reported to the SRCAF Board March 17, as being reviewed, with comments or questions raised. A letter discussing presentations reviewed by this committee will be drafted for CALFED.

The CALFED science proposal timeline has not been announced. Comment period for these projects is on their website: <http://calwater.ca.gov>, as is a new 3.5 minute video.



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# SRCAF River Reach

March, 2005



Some of the Board members in attendance at the SRCAF Board meeting March 17 were (l-r): Gary Evans (Colusa), Shirley Lewis (Butte), Russell Young (Sec./Treas., Sutter), Duane Chamberlain (Yolo), Ben Carter (Colusa), Diana Jacobs (Department of Fish and Game), Don Anderson (Past Chair, Glenn), Brendon Flynn (Tehama), Jane Dolan (Butte), Denny Bungarz (Glenn), Pete Rabbon (Reclamation Board), Dan Gover (Shasta), Marc Faye (Chair, Yolo), and Burt Bundy (Manager).

## Board Highlights

At the SRCAF Board meeting, March 17, Les Harder, Chief, Division of Flood Management, DWR gave a presentation on the DWR white paper entitled "Flood Warnings: Responding to California's Flood Crisis." Prepared in response to a legislative mandate, the report is considered "a catalyst to begin discussions on the best ways to move forward with reform strategies and financing system improvements."

Along with other business, the Board agreed to sponsor a workshop on landowner incentives, to encourage discussion between landowners and agencies about what incentives are needed and available for habitat conservation on private land. The SRCAF will also participate in a State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference this fall.

Among other committee reports was the Landowners Assurances Committee report; Ben Carter expressed frustration with the lack of progress and agencies not stepping forward regarding the Good Neighbor Policy, and indicated that he would consider stepping down if progress is not made. Legaci Group discussions, however, are moving forward.

## Project Tracker on Track

Beverley Anderson-Abbs, SRCAF Resource Conservationist, says there are roughly 55 projects on Project Tracker. All projects entered can be accessed through the SRCAF website: [sacramentoriver.ca.gov](http://sacramentoriver.ca.gov) or directly at: [www.srcafprojecttracker.org](http://www.srcafprojecttracker.org).

Individual projects can be accessed in three ways:

1) entering a primary activity (i.e., monitoring, aquisition), 2) entering a range of dates for the projected start of the project, or 3) entering a key word(s). With the attached map, clicking on a river mile will bring up all projects encompassing that area.



There is also a website link to the Sacramento River public access and recreation website which contains contact information for public properties along the river.

The ease of the system is being fine-tuned, so please email Beverley at [banderso@water.ca.gov](mailto:banderso@water.ca.gov) with any questions or problems. She also encouraged keeping projects updated on a regular basis. A special thanks to Jim Ham, DWR, for his assistance with Project Tracker.

Beverley's presentation received a round of applause from the group.

Try it -- we think you might like it!

## Calendar of Events

### TAC meeting

April 5, 9:30a.m. to 12 noon

**SRCAF Annual Board meeting and picnic**  
June 2

**SRCAF Board meeting**  
July 21, 1:30p.m. to 5:00p.m.

**Colusa Subreach Advisory Workgroup meeting**  
April 4, 10:00p.m. to 3:00p.m.

**Northern Sacramento Valley Water Forum**  
April 1, 1:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.

## The Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum 2005 Board of Directors

**Marc Faye ~ Chair, Yolo County**

**Glenn Hawes ~ Vice Chair, Shasta County**

**Russell Young ~ Sec./Treas., Sutter County**

**Don Anderson ~ Past Chair, Glenn County**

- **Brendon Flynn, Tehama County**
- **Ron Warner, Tehama County**
- **Denny Bungarz, Glenn County**
- **Ben Carter, Colusa County**
- **Jim McKevitt, The Resources Agency**
- **Jane Dolan, Butte County**
- **Dan Gover, Shasta County**
- **Shirley Lewis, Butte County**
- **Dan Silva, Sutter County**
- **Duane Chamberlain, Yolo County**
- **Gary Evans, Colusa County**

### Ex-Officio Members:

**Frank Michny, Bureau of Reclamation**

**Darrin Thome, U.S. F&WS**

**Mark Charlton, Corps of Engineers**

**Diana Jacobs, Department of Fish & Game**

**Pete Rabbon, The Reclamation Board**

**Dwight Russell, Department of Water Resources**

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**Ellen Gentry, Assistant**

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*Resource Conservationist*